

THE COMET.

ROBT. L. TAYLOR, Editor.
C. J. ST. JOHN, Jr., Editor.

Johnson City, Tenn., Aug. 2, 1884.

DEMOCRATIC TICKET.

The Great Reformer

The Wronged Man of '76

FOR PRESIDENT,
GROVER CLEVELAND,
OF NEW YORK.

FOR VICE-PRESIDENT,
Thos. A. Hendricks,
OF INDIANA.

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTORS,
ROBERT L. TAYLOR,
J. D. C. ATKINS.

DISTRICT ELECTORS,
1st. ROBERT BURROW.
2d. S. G. HEISKELL.
4th. M. S. ELKIN.
6th. J. W. JUDD.
7th. L. P. PADGET.
8th. R. P. COLE.
10th. J. HARVEY MATHES.

FOR GOVERNOR:
WILLIAM H. BATE,
OF DAVIDSON.

FOR RAILROAD COMMISSIONERS,
JOHN H. SAVAGE, of Warren.
G. W. GORDON, of Shelby.
J. A. TURLEY, of McMinn.

Washington County Ticket.
FOR SHERIFF:
EDWARD H. HARR.

FOR TRUSTEE:
J. C. ROBERTSON.

"The Mulligan Letters."

It will take a good deal of white wash to cover up all the dark spots in Mr. Blaine's record. This early in the campaign he is thrown upon the defensive. The leading papers that support him devote a large part of their space to explaining his dark and crooked actions. It is always a bad symptom when a man's character needs so much explanation.

His dishonorable connection with the Little Rock and Fort Smith railroad has as yet been gilded by no explanation. Nor does it seem that there is a possibility of a plausible explanation of his shameful prostitution of his power as speaker of the House, through motives of personal gain. The simple facts speak with stubborn force.

These facts are briefly as follows: In 1869, a bill was before the House of Representatives which sought to renew a land grant to the Little Rock and Fort Smith railroad of Arkansas. An attempt was made to defeat the bill by an amendment, and was about to be successful. Mr. Blaine, acting as Speaker of the House, sent a note to Gen. Logan requesting him to make the point of order that the amendment was not germane to the purposes of the bill. Mr. Logan made the point of order and Mr. Blaine sustained him. The bill was thus saved. Mr. Blaine wrote at once to the managers of this railroad calling their attention to the services he had rendered them. In return for this service Mr. Blaine received the appointment as selling agent of the bonds of the road in Maine, and a number of such bonds as his percentage. Mr. Blaine in writing to Mr. Fisher, one of the promoters of the railroad, hinted that his position in Congress would enable him to do the company good service, and that he would not "prove a dead head in the enterprise." A committee was appointed to investigate the charges. Mr. Mulligan, the private secretary of Mr. Fisher, held the letters which Blaine had written to Mr. Fisher. Mr. Mulligan appeared before the committee and testified that, on the day preceding, Mr. Blaine had implored him to give up the letters, asserting among other things, that their publication would "sink him immediately and ruin him forever." Mr. Mulligan steadfastly refused to surrender them, but allowed Mr. Blaine the privilege of reading them. When Mr. Blaine got his hands upon the letters he thrust them into his pocket, saying that they were his letters, and he intended to keep them. The committee demanded that Blaine appear before them on the 21st of June and exhibit the letters. On the 20th of June, Mr. Blaine on his way to church received a sunstroke, and remained in his bed until Congress adjourned.

It is asserted by Blaine's supporters that there is nothing dishonorable in these letters, and that Blaine did not want them to be published simply because they were of a personal nature. It may be taken as a rule that whenever you find a concealment in the conduct of a public officer you made a discovery of a fraud. "The quality of nothing needs not such hiding."

"I would rather be Secretary of State in the house of the Lord than to dwell in the tents of wickedness."

JOHN ALLISON.

Civil Service.

Under the administration of the Republican party, offices of the Federal Government have become very desirable as affording the occupants an easy life and a considerable sum of money. Thousands upon thousands of men put forth every effort to get into a "soft place" in Uncle Sam's house. Every man in authority under the government is flooded continually with letters petitioning for places. It is the dream of millions of men in the Republican party that some day they may get into office. And the flattering union which the bosses apply to the greedy office-seekers keeps the party together. The sweet hope of lounging in an elegant room and drawing plenty of money is a powerful incentive to patriotism and loyalty; and the party's strength lies in its success in keeping millions of office-hunters under this charming delusion. Of course comparatively few of the many Republicans, made to boil over with boisterous loyalty by the hope of a place, can succeed in getting into office, and hence the party of "great moral ideas" is nothing more than "the madness of the many for the benefit of the few."

It is, indeed, right that the officers of the government should be well paid for their services, but the remuneration of public officers should not be so large as to awaken in the minds of millions of men an insatiable desire for office. Reform is much needed in the civil service. The Republican party is the author of the present abuses, and it will hardly be prudent to trust it to make the needed reforms.

"Dem golden slippers
I's bound to wear."

O. C. KING.

"If you get there before I do
Look out for me I'm coming too."

CHAS. R. VANCE.

Does It Pay?

All success is costly. It demands an expenditure of time, labor and money. The greater the expenditure, as a general thing, the greater the success will be. And those men who are too timid to risk are almost always unfortunate enough to fail. Every man who depends upon the people for the success of his business must have something for sale that the people want, and must let the people know that he has it. The best way to inform the people concerning any business is to advertise through the papers. That this is true is found by the course of all successful business men. In every town, in every city, those who do the largest advertising in the papers do the best business with the people. Indeed, the only way in this day of enlightenment to build up a large business is to advertise liberally and judiciously.

The other day we inquired of several business men in Johnson City whether their advertising had paid them. Every one said that his advertising had amply repaid him.

"Almost persuaded."

J. B. STOKELY.

Git off de track
De Cars am a coming.

H. H. CARR.

Harr and Robertson.

Next Thursday will tell the story of wool or woe. Ed. Harr and J. C. Robertson will either triumph or go down in defeat. What say the people of Old Washington? Two truer men, never breathed. If they are elected we know the rights of the people will be protected; we know the law will be enforced. We have not a word of unkind comment for their opponents, let the people pass the verdict. Our candidates are both representative working men, honest and industrious, worthy and well qualified, and are gentlemen whom good men of all parties can safely support. In all parts of the county they stand well with the voters, we hear, and we think will without a doubt both be elected. Let the gallant 9th district which is and always will be proof against bull dozers, come to the front with a solid vote, for Harr for Sherriff and Robertson for Trustee.

"Love among the roses—rather sub rosa."

JUDGE ROSE.

"When the general role is called I'll be there."

HAM FULKERSON.

A Congressional Convention Called.

A Democratic Convention is hereby called, to meet at Greenville, Tenn., at 12 m., on Thursday, Aug. 28th, 1884, for the purpose of nominating a candidate for Congress from the First Congressional District of Tennessee, and for the appointment of sub-presidential electors for the various counties of the District and the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the Convention.

The chairman of the various counties are requested to call county conventions for the appointment of delegates to said Convention.

By order of the Committee, July 29, 1884.

W. S. DICKSON.

Chairman Democratic Congressional Executive Committee for the 1st District of Tennessee.
JOHN SLACK,
Secretary.

Convention Called.

A convention is hereby called to meet at the Court House in Jonesboro, Tenn., on Saturday, the 16th day of August, 1884 for the purpose of nominating a candidate for the State legislature and to appoint delegates to the Democratic congressional, senatorial and electoral conventions, to be held at Greenville, Tenn., on the 28th day of August, 1884.

H. H. CARR,
Ch'm. Dem. Ex. Com. for Washington county.

"Lead us not into temptation."

H. M. FOLSON.

"Quit that ticklin' me."

I. E. REEVES.

Girls.

Blessed is the man whose life is spent in the midst of girls. They make his home an Eden and his heart a Paradise. A home where "the lady of the house" is a girl, where the servant girl is a girl, the home that has two girl babies, a girl pup and several old girl hens will put any man to thinking. John Howard Payne had no right to immortalize himself with "Home sweet home."

He didn't know anything about how sweet it is to buy calico and domestic enough to build a circus tent every year, he had no sweet experience in feeding a large amount of girls on the net income from the newspaper business; he never took Methodist preachers home with him on wash-day. If he had, he would have written this way:

"My pleasures and palaces there's no time to roam
For chickens and 'taters are needed at home."

"Long live the King!"

JOHN SLACK.

"Well, I wish I may never!"

J. S. HELM.

Sour Things.

Pickles.
Old maids.
Crab apples.
Sauer kraut.
Defeated candidates.

All the dark horses.
The women on wash day.
"Sour mash" and vinegar.

The Republican party in '84.
The sourdest thing on record is a copper's breath mingling the odor of raw whiskey with raw onions and "long green tobacco." Nobody enjoys it so much as a candidate.

Next to the sourdest thing is an old watery eyed bachelor, making up his own bed of a morning.
A sour stomach is a terrible thing, especially after eating beef hash for supper.

The most sourst thing in politics is a sandy haired, gauger eyed, freckled faced Radical, who carried his "Doe-strict" for the successful candidate for Congress and failed to get a reply to his letter demanding a good "posish."

There is a man in Johnson City so sour that the pigs squeal as they pass him. All who look at him go home with their teeth on edge. His blood is vinegar, his breath is sour, his eyes are sour, his bones are sour, his pickles, his heart's a sour pickled beet, his brain is "sour mash." He looks sour, he smells sour, he talks sour, he "cusses" sour, he sneezes sour, he sings "sour apple tree." The political outlook has soured him.

"Wait 'til the clouds roll by."

W. W. LANGHOEN.

"Ripity rapity, vos voisty."

JEREMIE WHITE.

Appearances Are Deceitful.

"A very tall girl, wearing a Mother Hubbard dress, stepped on a platform scales at Coney Island and informed the proprietor that she wished to be weighed."

He placed a 200-pound weight on the hook, and the suddenness with which it came down frightened him. Then he tried a 150-pound weight with the same result.

"Strange," he muttered with a perplexed look at the girl. "Something must be wrong with the scales."

Finally, after repeated attempts, he informed her in a dubious tone of voice that she weighed just 80 pounds.

"Thank you," she said, handing him the nickel; "I seem to be gaining," and she tripped away.

Then the amazed scaleman looked after her and remarked:

"Some young fellow will get terribly fooled by that Mother Hubbard dress."

—New York Sun.

Mr. Blaine's Magnetism on a Bender.

A singular freak of lightning was observed at the Boston and Maine railroad station in Saco Sunday. A lady who was sitting in one corner of the waiting-room during the sharpest flash suddenly became enveloped in a bluish-white flame from her waist to her shoulders. Several gentlemen present, supposing her clothes were on fire, jumped to her rescue, but before they reached her the flame had disappeared. With the exception of a severe fright and a numb sensation in the arms, she was unharmed.

"I kin stand ane an' ridicule, but not swastam," remarked a tramp who asked a St. Paul woman for a meal and was referred to the woodpile.—St. Paul Herald.

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

General Logan has a son at West Point.

Two Mormon elders were egged in Indiana the other day.

Fearful hail storms recently visited Dakota, Wisconsin and Minnesota.

Stanley the celebrated African explorer has returned to England.

Sixty-five thousand clergymen are preaching in the United States.

Governor St. John's mustache is the subject of much comment.

John Bright recently made a heavy assault upon the "bloated aristocracy."

The expenses of the Greely relief expedition are estimated at about 700,000.

Gen. Grant, it is said, is losing his mind. Brooding over his troubles is perhaps the cause.

In Rochester, N. Y., seventeen members of the Salvation Army were imprisoned for singing on the street.

It is a relief to know that the monkey-wrench was named for its inventor, John Monkey, an English mechanic.

The revisors of the Old Testament have completed their work. The book will not be published before next Easter.

Mrs. Langtry is in a great hurry to get home. It is thought that she will get a divorce when she arrives in England.

An important change in the uniform of the enlisted men in the United States Army is contemplated by the war department.

It is estimated that over 4,000,000 words of Specials were telegraphed from Chicago during the eight days that both conventions were in session.

The Georgia editors who recently passed through Johnson City on an excursion to Baltimore gathered on the 28th at the battlefield of Gettysburg.

The prevalent toy of the Long Branch girl is a scent bottle. It gives its owner something to do with her hands, and serves the purpose of a cane in the grip of a dude.

Prof. Basil L. Gildersleeve, Professor of Greek Language and Literature, in John Hopkins University, will deliver a series of lectures, this month, at the University of the South, Seawance, Tenn.

Since Oscar Wild married he wears a perpetual smile. It is thought that married life will take all the melancholy from Oscar and that in less time than six months he will cease to talk of the sunflower and the lily.

Gen. Longstreet's Successor.

WASHINGTON, July 25.—The President has appointed John E. Bryant United States Marshall for the district of Georgia, vice General Longstreet.

Johnson City is a noted place for public gatherings this summer. The Greenville District Conference of the M. E. Church will convene there on the 30th inst., and Holston Baptist Association will meet there on the 7th of August.—Central Star.

To-day, Aug. 2d, the Greely relief expedition will arrive in the city of Portsmouth, N. H. On Monday a reception will be given to the men and officers of the relief expedition by the city of Portsmouth and the State authorities of New Hampshire.

Rev. Frank Roger Morse, of Brooklyn, in giving last Sunday reasons why a minister should take vacation said that the ministers' absence gave his congregation a rest. A new way of putting it. Can't all preachers catch a useful idea from this?

Boycot was the name of a west of Ireland land agent some years ago, who made himself so obnoxious to the Irish people that they all refused to work for him. He was thus compelled to leave Ireland, and the term "Boycot" has since been applied to organized efforts to refuse support to any persons or institution.—Philadelphia Times.

LYONS, N. Y., July 26.—Two or three days ago a number of young men in this village were boasting of their digestive powers. Finally Stephen Whitlock, aged 18, volunteered to eat a pint of ice cream, two quarts of cherries, and a quart of peanuts, if any one would pay for the feast. A companion became responsible for the payment, and Whitlock accomplished the feat, besides drinking several glasses of ice water. He died soon after in great agony.

Sleep may knit the raveled sleeve of care, but it resolutely refuses to darn holes in socks.—Nevada Tablet.

"Business before pleasure," as the man said who married a bony, wart-on-the-nose old gal for her money.—Ky. State Journal.

The reason a certain portion of a boys pants is called the roof, is because it is the place where he is shingled so frequently.—Siftings.

"Carrie," said one Somerville girl to another, yesterday, "are you going to the pie-nice to-morrow?" "I am, are you?" "Of course." "What do you intend to wear?" "I will wear a water proof cloak. I've been at picnics before."—Somerville Journal.

POLITICAL BRIEVITIES.

Mr. Dana's head is quite as level as ever, but really it's just a little sore.—Philadelphia Times.

Candidate St. John will run his campaign with a turbine wheel and a water spout.—Philadelphia Press.

Gen. Butler seems to have lost his luck. The prohibition nomination skipped him.—Chicago Herald.

"As long as the moral law" can now be superseded by saying, "as long as Blaine's letter of acceptance."—Elmira Gazette.

Now that Theodore Roosevelt has come out for Blaine he is no longer as a dupe to the Republican organs.—Kansas City Star.

Ex-Attorney General Speed of Kentucky the only surviving member of Lincoln's Cabinet has declared for Cleveland.

George William Curtis parts his hair in the middle, and he is quite likely to part the Republican party of New York in the same place.—Chicago Times.

So fast is Gov. Cleveland increasing in popularity even Mr. Tilden's mantle will have to be pieced out to cover him before the election gets along.—Troy Press.

It does not follow, because the Presidential candidate of the Prohibitionists is a "Saint," that all of the members of that party are of the same class.—Boston Traveller.

Ex-Gov. St. John, who takes the Prohibition cake, will find it insufficient for a full meal, but it will do to lunch on when he goes sailing up Salt River.—Chicagotribune Times-Star.

At a ratification meeting in Davenport Iowa over 8000 Germans who had formerly been Republicans took part and shouted for Cleveland. The news is good from every quarter.

If Cleveland carries New York, Connecticut, New Jersey, Indiana, Wisconsin, Nevada and Colorado, with a prospect of Illinois—and he is likely to—we can give Blaine West Virginia for a cork and North Carolina for a sinker.—Courier-Journal.

Blaine was an active worker in the Prohibition movement in Maine. Why did the Prohibitionists make a nomination? Ah! Blaine knew that it was policy to be a Prohibitionist in Maine. He is in politics an Anythingarian.

When Polk was a candidate his enemies attempted to injure him by sending everywhere the inquiry "who is James K. Polk?" The same trick is being practiced in the present campaign, and Cleveland is called the "obscure citizen of Erie county."

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